

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the present patent application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A system for butt welding two expansion joint rails with a control system, wherein each expansion joint rail comprises at least one gland cavity having a fixed distance from the top of each expansion joint rail, said system having a welding shoe assembly comprising:

~~at least one~~ a top gland shoe and a bottom gland shoe configured to occupy said at least one gland cavity; and

a pair of butt shoes that abut said expansion joint rail and said top ~~at least one~~ gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe.

Claim 2 (currently amended). The system of claim 1 wherein said ~~at least one~~ top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are composed ~~is composed~~ primarily of copper.

Claim 3 (original). The system of claim 2 wherein said plurality of butt shoes are composed primarily of copper.

Claim 4 (cancelled).

Claim 5 (original). The system of claim 4 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are beveled.

Claim 6 (original). The system of claim 4 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe slidably interface with one another.

Claim 7 (currently amended). The system of claim 1 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are at least one gland shoe is water cooled.

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (cancelled).

Claim 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (cancelled).

Claim 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14 (cancelled).

Claim 15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (cancelled).

Claim 18 (cancelled).

Claim 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (cancelled).

Claim 22 (cancelled).

Claim 23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (cancelled).

Claim 25 (cancelled).

Claim 26 (cancelled).

Claim 27 (cancelled).

Claim 28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (cancelled).

Claim 30 (cancelled).

Claim 31 (currently amended). A welding shoe assembly for butt welding two expansion joint rails wherein each expansion joint rail comprises at least one gland cavity having a fixed distance from the top of each expansion joint rail, said welding shoe assembly, comprising:

a top gland shoe and a bottom gland shoe ~~at least one gland shoe~~ configured to occupy said at least one gland cavity; and

a pair of butt shoes that abut said expansion joint rail and said at least one gland shoe.

Claim 32 (currently amended). The welding shoe assembly of claim 31 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe ~~are at least one gland shoe~~ is composed primarily of copper.

Claim 33 (original). The welding shoe assembly of claim 32 wherein said plurality of butt shoes are composed primarily of copper.

Claim 34 (cancelled).

Claim 35 (original). The welding shoe assembly of claim 34 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are beveled.

Claim 36 (original). The welding shoe assembly of claim 34 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe slidably interface with one another.

Claim 37 (currently amended). The welding shoe assembly of claim 31 wherein said top gland shoe and said bottom gland shoe are ~~at least one gland shoe is~~ water cooled.

Claim 38 (cancelled).